

BNSF



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VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL

February 3, 2004

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001



Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 395X); The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Columbus, Kansas and Carthage, Missouri

Dear Secretary Williams:

This letter serves to clarify my letter dated October 20, 2003 regarding the above-referenced docket.

BNSF and the Joplin Trail Coalition entered into an Interim Trails Use Railbanking Agreement, dated June 16, 2003 (for the properties in the State of Missouri), in lieu of abandonment. The remainder of the right of way, located in the State of Kansas, has been salvaged and fully abandoned. Therefore, BNSF's *discontinuance* of the line for the properties in the State of Missouri and the *abandonment* of the properties in the State of Kansas were consummated as of October 31, 2003.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Sincerely,

Sarah Whitley Bailiff
Sarah Whitley Bailiff

SWB/js

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
FEB - 4 2004
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Public Record

cc: Kansas Corporation Commission
Kansas Department of Transportation
Missouri Public Service Commission
Missouri Department of Transportation
Richard Batie
Charles Montange (Joplin Trail Coalition)
Rail Services Update